

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Thus, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the process for obtaining the acid-soluble soybean protein, based on the disclosure from page 9, line 11 to page 10, line 1 of the specification.

Claims 5 and 6 have been amended for clarification.

The patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosure of the reference relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims will be apparent upon consideration of the following remarks.

Thus, the rejection of claims 1-2 and 5-6 (Applicants assume the Examiner meant to refer to claims 1-3 and 5-6) under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Blake et al. (US '211) is respectfully traversed.

This reference fails to disclose or suggest either of treatments (A) or (B) as recited in amended claim 1. Furthermore, as noted in the first paragraph on page 10 of the present specification, treatments (A) and (B) result in increasing the solubility of soybean protein under acidic conditions which in turn results in an improvement in whipping properties. There is no suggestion in the Blake et al. reference that such superior results could be achieved by adopting treatments (A) and/or (B).

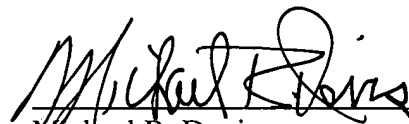
For these reasons, Applicants take the position that the presently claimed invention is clearly patentable over the applied reference.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the ground of rejection set forth by the Examiner has been overcome, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 4, 2009